

Appl. No. 10/735,154
Amdt. Dated Jul. 18, 2005
Reply to Office Action of Apr. 18, 2005

REMARKS

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 1-9 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chiou et al. (U. S. Patent No. 6,193,552).

In response to the rejections of claims 1-9, applicants have amended independent claim 1 to incorporate novel and patentable limitations thereto. Applicants do not introduce new matter to claim 1. Support for the above changes appear, for example, on page 6, lines 16-23 and FIG. 1 of the present invention. By such amendments, applicants believe that amended claim 1 is now patentable over the cited prior art. Detailed explanations are given below.

Regarding to independent claim 1, an electrical connector as defined therein *for mating with a module and a complementary connector*, comprises an insulative housing defining *a front and a rear mating ports respectively for receiving the complementary connector and the module* and a plurality of contacts each comprising *a first contact portion exposed to the front mating port and a second contact portion exposed to the rear mating port*.

However, Chiou at least fails to disclose an insulative housing defining a rear mating port for receiving the module as defined in claim 1. As disclosed in column 1, lines 7-9 of Chiou, along with FIGS. 1 and 2, Chiou discloses an electrical connector which has well-retained soldering tails 21 for soldering to a printed circuit board. Therefore, the rear end of the electrical connector of Chiou has a materially different design from that of claim 1. Chiou fails to disclose the housing defining a rear mating port and the contact having a second contact portion exposed to the rear mating port as defined in claim 1.

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For the at least reason, claim 1 is not anticipated by Chiou. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 and dependent claims 2-9 therefrom are allowable.

In response to the rejections of claims 17-19, applicants respectfully disagree with the opinion of Examiner. Detailed explanations are given below.

Regarding to independent claim 17, Independent claim 17 defines *a pair of connection portions located on said mating face by two sides of said mating opening, and a pair of side plates respectively extending from the corresponding connection portion each defining a locking structure thereon.*

Chiou does not teach "a pair of connection portions located on said mating face by two sides of said mating opening". Examiner regards a area where numeral reference 32 is located (See DETAIL ACTION, page 4, line 5) as a pair of connection portions of claim 17. However, referring to column 2, lines 23-25 of Chiou, it is disclosed that the housing 1 has a mating face 10 and a soldering face 11 opposite the mating face 10. Thus, the area that Examiner believes is not formed on the mating face 10 but the soldering face 11. Furthermore, the connection portions of claim 17 are located on said mating face by two sides of said mating opening, the mating opening is formed in said mating face and the mating face is defined with opposite top and bottom faces by two vertical sides. Hence, in fact, the connection portions of claim 17 connect with the top and bottom faces. Chiou fails to disclose the connection portions located on said mating face by two sides of said mating opening.

For the at least reason, claim 17 is not anticipated by Chiou, either. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 17 and dependent claims 18-19 therefrom are allowable.

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Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)

Claims 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ko (U.S. Patent No. 6,648,668).

With respect to claim 10, claim 10 defines *a first connector and a second connector, and a pair of latches assembled to the housing of the second connector to be interlocked to the insulative housing of the first connector*. However, Ko (US 6,648,668) fails to disclose the two connectors. A first connector (3, 21) (see DETAIL ACTION page 4, line 19) and a second connector (1) (see DETAIL ACTION page 5, line 3) that Examiner believes are actually parts of an electrical connector 100 but not two connectors. Further referring to column 4, lines 1-12 of Ko (US 6,648,668), it is obvious that the pair of latch devices 4 is for latching the micro coaxial connector 100 shown in FIG. 1 with a complementary connector (not shown) but not for latching with the components (3, 21) and the component (1) of the same connector 100.

For the at least reason, claim 10 is not anticipated by Ko (US 6,648,668). Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 10 and dependent claim 11 therefrom is allowable.

Claims 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ko (U.S. Patent No. 6,619,985).

With respect to claim 12, claim 12 defines *a metallic first shell covering at least a portion of said first housing and a metallic second shell being positionable to said first shell and covering at least another portion of said first housing*. However, Ko (US 6,619,985) fails to disclose the two metallic shells. In view of FIG. 2 of Ko (US 6,619,985), numeral reference 30 is a conductive grounding plate (column 2, line 32) but is not a shell. Furthermore, the grounding plate 30 is received in the receiving space 416 (volume 3, lines 40-41) of the housing 40. But the shell of claim

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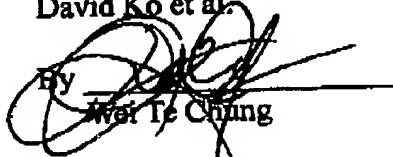
12 covers a portion of the insulative housing.

For the at least reason, claim 12 is not anticipated by Ko (U.S. Patent No. 6,619,985). Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 12 and dependent claims 13-16 therefrom are allowable.

Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

In view of the above claim amendments and remarks, applicants believe that the claims now pending are in a condition for allowance. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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